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LINDA E. HASTINGS

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Attorney Docket No.: NEKW 19.480

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor:

Takeo USHIKI

Serial No.:

10,083,440

Filed:

February 26, 2002

Title:

SURFACE CONTAMINATION ANALYZER FOR

SEMICONDUCTOR WAFERS, METHOD USED THEREIN AND

PROCESS FOR FABRICATING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

Examiner:

Quoc Dinh Hoang

Group Art Unit:

2818

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## ELECTION

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed on June 6, 2003, the period for responding thereto having been set to expire after July 6, 2003, Applicant hereby elects Group II, claims 16-21, for prosecution at this time. Applicant reserves the right to file continuing application(s) based on claims 1-15. Early examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Any fee due with this paper, not fully covered by an enclosed check, may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael I. Markowitz

Reg. No. 30,659

KATTEN MUCHIN ZAVIS ROSENMAN 575 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022 (212) 940-8687 DOCKET NO.:NECW 19.480

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